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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: John Loike and Samuel C. Silverstein
Serial No.: 09/177,843 Examiner: G. Bansal
Filed : October 22, 1998 Group Art Unit: 1642
For : METHOD OF TREATING INFECTION OF SUTURES AND
PROSTHETIC DEVICES

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10035
February 28, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box CPA

Sir:

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PETITION FOR A FIVE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

This Petition is submitted in order to obtain a five-month extension of time for filing an appeal brief in connection with the above-identified application.

A Final Office Action was issued on January 30, 2001, in connection with this application. A response to the Final Office Action was timely filed on April 30, 2001. On July 30, 2001 applicants filed a Notice of Appeal and Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time. An appeal brief was therefore originally due on September 30, 2001. Applicants hereby petition for a five-month extension of time for filing an appeal brief. The fee for a five-month extension is NINE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$980.00) for a small entity, and a check for this amount is enclosed. Therefore, this application is pending today.

No fee, other than the enclosed \$980.00 extension fee, is required in connection with this Petition. However, if any

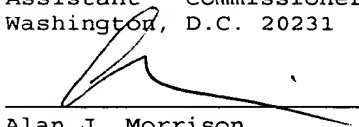
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additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee, or credit the amount of any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.


Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231


Alan J. Morrison
Reg. No. 37,399

2/28/02
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